

27. The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said firing is performed as a grate firing.

28. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said heat exchanger includes a catalyst filling.

29. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said pipes of the heat exchanger include catalytically active material.

30. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said heat exchanger is used with a solid bed reactor with catalyst feed.

31. The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein gases passing into said heat exchanger are first filtered to dedust the gases.

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#### REMARKS

Applicants reiterate and again claim priority on the basis of German application 197 55 693.0, filed December 16, 1997, and PCT/EP98/08217, filed December 15, 1998.

The above-identified patent application was amended to place the patent application in better form for United States patent practice. Applicants submit that the amendments to the specification do not constitute new matter. An abstract has also been added by this amendment. A separate page which includes the abstract is also enclosed. Finally, Applicants have amended the claims to remove the multiple dependency, to clarify the claim language, and have added new claims to obtain claim

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END

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Respectfully submitted,  
VICKERS, DANIELS & YOUNG

**ROBERT V. VICKERS**  
Reg. No. 19,504  
**VICKERS, DANIELS & YOUNG**  
50 Public Square, Suite 2000  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
Telephone: (216) 623-0040  
Facsimile: (216) 623-0407